

## Warden Message – U.S. Embassy, Quito, Ecuador

### Travel Restrictions Related to Census Could Seriously Impede Movement in Country on November 28

November 18, 2010

The U.S. Embassy in Quito advises U.S. citizens living or traveling in Ecuador that an upcoming census day in Ecuador could seriously impede movement in urban centers of the country for one day, Sunday, November 28. While details are not entirely clear at this point because the government has not yet released the regulations, the census agency, Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censo, has indicated that on **Sunday, November 28, from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., all urban residents are required to remain in their residences. At this point, this also appears to include hotels.**

The U.S. Embassy has requested additional information on how this census day will apply to non-Ecuadorian citizens. However, it has been confirmed that no businesses will be open in urban areas, including restaurants and stores. International flights will fly as scheduled, but domestic flights will not fly between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. If you already have a flight booked for that day, please check with your airline to ensure that it is flying as scheduled.

There will only be limited taxi service available in the major cities and no bus service. If you do need to travel that day, authorities advise you to do so before 7:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m. Also, please prepare in advance for basic needs, such as food and water. Some hotels may have food available for their clients; check with your specific hotel for more information. Tourists planning travel in Ecuador that day may want to arrange to be in rural areas on that day, November 28, as the travel restrictions do not appear to apply outside of urban areas. It has also been reported that no alcohol will be sold in urban areas the entire weekend.

The U.S. Embassy will continue to pursue the requirements for the census day and will share additional information as soon as it is available.

Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to enroll with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate in order to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador through the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#).

U.S. citizens should consult the [Country Specific Information](#) for Ecuador and the latest Travel Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the [Department's website](#). Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro. The telephone number for American Citizen Service (ACS) inquiries is (011 593-2) 398-5000. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls. Public call-in hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Friday 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Appointments for ACS are available through our [website](#).

The [U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil](#) is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde); telephone (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or 232-1152 for after-hours emergencies.

Anyone can follow the activities of the U.S. Embassy in Ecuador through the [Embassy website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).